

CLASSIFICATION

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COUNTRY East Germany

REPORT

TOPIC Pirna Ordnance School of the Ministry of the Interior

016825

EVALUATION

PLACE OBTAINED

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DATE OF CONTENT

DATE OBTAINED

DATE PREPARED 11 February 1954

REFERENCES

PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. &amp; TYPE)

REMARKS

This is UNEVALUATED Information

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1. The Pirna Ordnance School which was subordinate to the Ministry of the Interior had the designation "Waffentechnische Schule, Pirna II" and was quartered in brick buildings on the Sonnenstein Hill, about 3 kilometers north of the center of the city.

2. Organization and strength of the unit were as follows:

	Officers	Officer Candidates	IM
Headquarters	23		
Headquarters platoon			25
1st Co	5	63	
2d Co	6	60	
3d Co	6	60	

3. Officers of the school included Lieutenant Colonel Weiss (fnu), school commander; Major Kirmes (fnu), director of training; Major Lerche (fnu), deputy for general affairs; Major Gowinkowski (fnu), political officer; Captain Miet, (fnu), liaison officer to the Ministry of the Interior; Senior Lieutenant Franke (fnu), instruction officer for ammunition; Captain Luchs (fnu), instruction officer for political indoctrination; Captain Kehr (fnu), instruction officer for infantry equipment; Lieutenant Hebelt (fnu), leader of the 1st Co; and Senior Lieutenant Sachse (fnu), leader of the 2d Co.

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4. Weapons of the school included one 122-mm howitzer; 1 model DschK M-1938 heavy machine gun, 2 Maxim heavy machine guns; and one Goryunov heavy machine gun. The instruction officer for infantry equipment said that a shipment of several guns came in by rail in early October and was stored in the gun storage shed. Motor vehicles of the school included 5 M-3-A trucks; 2 BMW and BMW sedans; and 1 ambulance.
5. A Soviet adviser who held the rank of colonel was assigned to the school. He appeared only occasionally and did not personally interfere with the service of the units.
6. Instruction<sup>given</sup> at the school included instruction on the model 100 rifle, model 100 submachine gun, model TT-33 pistol, Goryunov heavy machine gun, Maxim heavy machine gun, DschK heavy machine gun; ballistics; the development of infantry and artillery ammunition; combat training in the terrain at platoon level for marksmanship training; and instruction on the carburetor engine and maintenance of motor vehicles.

Comment. In early September 1953, the ordnance school moved from Gera to Pirna.

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Lieutenant Colonel Weiss (fnu), probably succeeded Colonel Thiele (fnu), the previous school commander. It is believed that Colonel Thiele was reassigned to Lotrilugk.

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